

parallel to the grid bars, the corresponding clamps are welded with the beams or inserted in perforated beams to fix them therein. The outmost clamps (3-2-3-2') are extended to be higher than others and serve as baffles for keeping the liquid level in grid tray; or, alternatively the guide mesh (wires) can be directly fixed under the grid bars without clamps.

On Page 5, amend the sixth paragraph as follows:

3. There are three alternative structures as ~~followed~~ follows for the overflowing film-forming mechanism in which grid trays are arranged in the same direction:

On Page ⁵~~6~~, amend the fourth and fifth paragraphs as follows:

The materials are fed into the tower through the feeding inlet *a* at the top of the tower, and fall onto the first grid tray uniformly through the liquid distributor, then pass through the grid gaps and generate films along the guide meshes (wires). The films are baffled by grid bars in the second grid tray, and materials pass through the grid gaps in the second grid tray and generate films along the guide meshes (wires) in the second grid tray. Once again, the films are baffled by grid bars in the third grid tray, and materials pass through the grid gaps in the third grid tray and generate films along the guide mesh. This continues until materials pass through the grid gaps in the lowermost grid tray ~~to~~ and fall down to the tower bottom, and then leave the tower via the material discharging outlet *b*.

The gases which escape from the film surface during the process pass through the narrow space between the liquid films, rise upwards through the arc-shaped area between the tower housing (1) and the internal tower ~~internal~~ (3) and gather at the top of the tower, then leave the tower via the gas discharging outlet *c*.

On Page ⁷~~8~~, amend the last paragraph as follows:

Example 1: final polycondensation tower for high-viscous polyester

The tower has a diameter of 1600mm and a height of 8000mm. The internal tower ~~internal~~ has a size of 1000mmx1000mmx6000mm and comprises 80 layers of grid trays which are

arranged crosswise in an overflowing film-forming manner. The layer interval of the two uppermost grid trays is 15mm and that of the bottommost grid trays is 37.5mm. The pre-polymers introduced into the tower have an intrinsic viscosity of 0.3 and a temperature of 285° Celsius and a flow rate of 2,500kg/hr. The pressure in the tower is 100Pa. The intrinsic viscosity of polymer leaving the tower increases to 0.85.

Change(s) applied
to document,
/T.M.F./
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On Page ⁸ 9 amend the last paragraph as follows:

The degassing tower is 1600mm in diameter, 7500mm in height. The internal tower ~~internal~~ has a size of 620mmx620mmx5000mm and comprises 80 layers of grid trays which arranged in a hybrid style as per the abovementioned Configuration C. The layer interval is 8mm. The solution of ethylene oxide with 2% CO₂ is fed into the tower, and the temperature is 40° Celsius, the flow rate is 60,000kg/hr. The pressure in the tower is 0.135MPa. The CO₂ in the solution of ethylene oxide leaving the tower is removed completely.